

## County of Erie

# MARK C. POLONCARZ County Executive

MARIA R. WHYTE Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

JOSEPH L. FIEGL, P.E. Deputy Commissioner

June 18, 2015

Kevin Moyer Senior Project Engineer Steuben Foods, Inc. 1150 Maple Road Elma, New York 14059

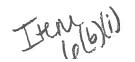
RE: Erie County Sewer District No. 3 (ECSD No.3) Notice of Violation-May pH

### Dear Mr. Moyer:

During the month of May, the Division of Sewerage Management (DSM) recorded, at the Elma Pump Station, several pH results that exceeded the permitted limit of 12 S.U. The date, time, duration and pH are listed below:

5/1/15	5:33am	39 minutes	pH 12.46	5/10/15	7:39 pm	34 minutes	pH 12.49
5/6/15	10:22pm	33 minutes	pH 12.48	5/10/15	-	47 minutes	pH 12.62
5/7/15	8:00am	31 minutes	pH 12.40	5/11/15	1:04am	100 minutes	pH 12.62
5/7/15	3:57pm	13 minutes	pH 12.31	5/11/15	3:45pm	32 minutes	pH 12.40
5/8/15	11:24am	48 minutes	pH 12.46	5/12/15	-	26 minutes	pH 12.37
5/9/15	12:37pm	31 minutes	pH 12.41	5/12/15		17 minutes	pH 12.34
5/9/15	4:10pm	59 minutes	pH 12.55	5/12/15		150 minutes	pH 12.96
5/9/15	9:39pm	14 minutes	pH 12.34	5/12/15	-	218 minutes	pH 12.97
5/10/15	05:44am	98 minutes	pH 12.67	5/19/15	_	50 minutes	pH 12.51
5/10/15	5:38 pm	62 minutes	pH12.56				<b>.</b>

The DSM received Steuben Food's letter, dated May 11, 2015, in response to a pH violation that occurred on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. A power outage occurred causing the wastewater treatment system to go into bypass mode. The battery backup on the pH controls failed allowing wastewater to go untreated. The situation was corrected when the problem was found, after midnight. Please note, the DSM did not receive notification by phone when the problem occurred. Immediate notification is required as per your Discharge Permit.



Mr. Moyer June 18, 2015 Page 2

Steuben is required to investigate the other pH violations. A complete report, including preventative measures that have been implemented to prevent future exceedences, will be due by July 15, 2015.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 823-5888, ext 223.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Surdej

Industrial Wastewater Specialist

cc:

J. Figl/D. Millar/M. Salah/file

G. Absolom/K. Kaminski 3.2.4 Steuben Foods

E. Eigenbrod

Len Carruthers (Steuben Foods)



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Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

JOSEPH L. FIEGL, P.E. Deputy Commissioner

July 22, 2015

Kevin Moyer Senior Project Engineer Steuben Foods, Inc. 1150 Maple Road Elma, New York 14059

RE: Erie County Sewer District No. 3 (ECSD No.3)

Notice of Violation-June pH

Dear Mr. Moyer:

The Division of Sewerage Management (DSM) received your letter dated June 30<sup>th</sup> in response to several pH excursions that occurred during May 2015. Your letter indicated that the cause was due to a pH meter not reading properly and therefore not adjusting the pH of the effluent adequately. The letter also noted that the internal alarm did not activate to alert staff of a problem with the pH adjustment system. To prevent future occurrences, several preventative maintenance reminders (PM's) were created; to clean probes more frequently, build a new alarm panel, replace battery in control panel and verify functionality of system quarterly.

Please note, that review of the June monthly pH data from the Elma Pump Station indicated one pH violation. On June 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm, the pH was 12.7 S.U. for 44 minutes. Steuben is required to investigate this pH exceedence. Please provide a written report to this office, including preventative measures that have been implemented to prevent future violations, by August 20, 2015.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 823-5888, ext 223.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Surdei

Industrial Wastewater Specialist

cc: J. Fiegl/D. Millar/M. Salah/file

G. Absolom/K. Kaminski/3.2.4 Steuben Foods

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